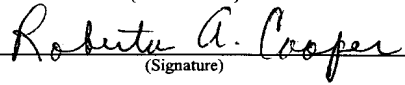




Application Serial No. 09/990,709

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Wilhelm Cramer et al.  
Title: VENT PLUG SYSTEM FOR  
STORAGE BATTERIES  
Appl. No.: 09/990,709  
Filing Date: 11/21/2001  
Examiner: Chaudhry, Saeed T.  
Art Unit: 1746  
Atty. Dkt. No.: 054821-0883

<b>CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING</b>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
EV 505572750 US	08/16/04
(Express Mail Label Number)	(Date of Deposit)
Roberta A. Cooper	
(Printed Name)	
	
(Signature)	

**REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action dated June 17, 2004, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: